## WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

- 1. A solid electrolytic capacitor, comprising:
- a substrate composed of niobium;
- a niobium nitride layer formed on the surface of said substrate; and
  - a dielectric layer composed of niobium oxide formed on the surface of said niobium nitride layer.
- The solid electrolytic capacitor according to claim
   1, wherein

said substrate and said niobium nitride layer constitute an anode.

3. The solid electrolytic capacitor according to claim  $15\,$  1, wherein

said dielectric layer is nitrogen-free.

- 4. The solid electrolytic capacitor according to claim
  1, wherein
- 20 said niobium nitride layer is substantially composed of  $\mathrm{Nb_2N}$ .
  - The solid electrolytic capacitor according to claim
     wherein
- 25 the nitrogen content based on the total weight of said

substrate, said niobium nitride, and said dielectric layer is not less than 0.001 % by weight nor more than 0.2 % by weight.

6. The solid electrolytic capacitor according to claim 5 1, wherein

the nitrogen content based on the total weight of said substrate, said niobium nitride, and said dielectric layer is not less than 0.001 % by weight nor more than 0.08 % by weight.

- 7. A solid electrolytic capacitor, comprising: an anode composed of niobium nitride; and a dielectric layer composed of niobium oxide formed on the surface of said anode.
- 8. The solid electrolytic capacitor according to claim 7, wherein

said niobium nitride is composed of  $NbN_{X}$ , where said X is not less than 0.05 nor more than 1.

9. The solid electrolytic capacitor according to claim7, wherein

said niobium nitride is composed of  $NbN_{\text{X}}$ , where said X is not less than 0.05 nor more than 0.75.

25 10. The solid electrolytic capacitor according to claim

## 7, wherein

said anode is composed of a mixture of a plurality of kinds of niobium nitride containing nitrogen in different composition ratios.

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11. A method of manufacturing a solid electrolytic capacitor, comprising the steps of:

forming a dielectric layer composed of niobium oxide by oxidizing a surface of a substrate composed of niobium;

forming a niobium nitride layer between said substrate and said dielectric layer by thermally treating said substrate having said dielectric layer formed thereon in a nitrogen atmosphere; and

anodizing said dielectric layer.

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12. The method of manufacturing a solid electrolytic capacitor according to claim 11, wherein

the temperature in said thermal treatment is not lower than 300% nor higher than 920%.

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13. The method of manufacturing a solid electrolytic capacitor according to claim 11, wherein

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14. A method of manufacturing a solid electrolytic capacitor comprising the step of forming a dielectric layer composed of niobium oxide on the surface of an anode composed of niobium nitride by oxidizing a surface of said anode.